7.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising:

determining a threshold as a function of the peak value.

8.   (Currently Amended) ~~A system~~ An apparatus, comprising:

a correlator for computing an ensemble correlation function [[output]] from a plurality of received symbols; [[and]]

a ~~subtractor~~ comparator, operatively coupled to the correlator, for determining a valid sampling region based on a width of a plateau of the ensemble correlation function [[output]]; and

a sampling position selector, operatively coupled to the correlator, for determining at least one sampling position for at least one symbol based on the valid sampling region.

9.   (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ apparatus of claim 8, further comprising:

a filter, operatively coupled to the correlator, for filtering the ensemble correlation function [[output]] .

10.   (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ apparatus of claim 9, further comprising:

a maximum detector, operatively coupled to the filter, for determining a peak value included in the filtered ensemble correlation function [[output]].

11.   (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ apparatus of claim 8, further comprising:

a ~~comparator~~ subtractor, [[operatively coupled to]] operatively coupling the ~~correlator to the subtractor and the sampling position selector~~ comparator, for ~~comparing the ensemble correlation function [[output]] to a threshold to define~~ subtracting a width of the valid sampling region from a length of a cyclic extension of a symbol to obtain an estimate of a delay-spread.

12.   (Original) The ~~system~~ apparatus of claim 8, for use in a receiver.

13.   (Original) The ~~system~~ apparatus of claim 12, wherein the receiver is wireless.

14.   (Original) The *apparatus* ~~system~~ of claim 8, further comprising:

at least one phase locked loop for tracking edges of the plateau.

15.   (Currently Amended) A method for estimating [[delay spread]] delay-spread in a communication system using cyclic extension of a plurality of symbols, the method comprising:

computing an ensemble correlation function [[output]] from the plurality of symbols; and

using the ensemble correlation function [[output]] to estimate the delay-spread.

16.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

comparing the ensemble correlation function [[output]] to a threshold to define a valid sampling region; and

subtracting a width of the valid sampling region from a length of the cyclic extension of a symbol to obtain the estimate of the [[delay spread]] delay-spread.

17.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

filtering the ensemble correlation function [[output]].

18.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, further comprising:

using a median filter to filter the ensemble correlation function [[output]].

19.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

determining a peak value included in the ensemble correlation function [[output]].

20.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising:

determining a threshold as a function of the peak value.

21.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein threshold crossing

points of the ensemble correlating function [[output]] define the valid sampling

region.

An apparatus

22.   (Currently Amended), A system for estimating delay-spread in a

communication system using cyclic extension, comprising:

    a correlator for computing an ensemble correlation function [[output]] from a

plurality of symbols; and

    a delay-spread estimator, operatively coupled to the correlator, for estimating

the delay-spread.

apparatus

23.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 22, wherein the [[delay spread]]

delay-spread estimator includes:

    a comparator, operatively coupled to the correlator, for comparing the

ensemble correlation function [[output]] to a threshold to define a valid sampling

region; and

    a subtractor, operatively coupled to the comparator, for subtracting a width of

the valid sampling region from a length of the cyclic extension of [[the]] a symbol to

obtain the estimate of the [[delay spread]] delay-spread.

apparatus

24.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 22, further comprising:

    a filter, operatively coupled to the correlator, for filtering the ensemble

correlation function [[output]].

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ *apparatus* of claim 24, further comprising:

a maximum detector, operatively coupled to the filter, for determining a peak value included in the filtered ensemble correlation function [[output]].

26. (Original) The ~~system~~ *apparatus* of claim 22, for use in a receiver.

27. (Original) The ~~system~~ *apparatus* of claim 26, wherein the receiver is wireless.

28. (Currently Amended) A method for adapting a receiver in a communication system using cyclic extension of a plurality of symbols, the method comprising:

computing an ensemble correlation function [[output]] from the plurality of symbols;

determining a multipath channel characteristic based on the ensemble correlation function [[output]]; and

adapting the receiver based on the multipath channel characteristic.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the multipath channel characteristic is delay-spread.

30. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the step of adapting comprises:

determining one or more coefficients of a channel estimation filter in the receiver.